

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 04156 101153Z

ACTION CU-04

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FOR CU/ARTS, CU/WE/EE, PASS USIA/IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TOUR BLUE SAINTS JAZZ BAND

1. SOME MONTHS AGO USIS PARIS ADVISED INFORMALLY OF
PLANNED 1977 SUMMER EUROPEAN TOUR OF BLUE SAINTS JAZZ
BAND.

2. BLUE SAINTS ARE AGGREGATION HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STAR
MUSICIANS FROM LOS ANGELES AREA WELL RATED BY MUSIC
PANEL. HAS TWICE PERFORMED IN FRANCE WITH EXCELLENT
RESPONSE. PAO HAS SEEN AND HEARD GROUP AND CONSIDERS IT
EXCELLENT VEHICLE FOR DEMONSTRATING VIRTUOSITY YOUNG U.S.
MUSICIANS, STRENGTH OF MUSICAL DEVELOPMENT AS PART OF
U.S. EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM, LEVEL OF PERFORMING DISCIPLINE
ACHIEVED AT AN EARLY AGE, AND VIGOR OR AMERICAN UNIQUE
MUSICAL IDIOM. THIS KIND OF INITIATIVE UNKNOWN IN
FRANCE.

3. EXPERIENCE HERE WITH STUDENT BANDS, WITH EXCEPTION
BLUE SAINTS MOSTLY FROM UNIVERSITIES, HAS BEEN HIGHLY
POSITIVE.

4. WE HAD TENTATIVELY PLANNED THREE WEEKS OF PERFOR-
MANCES FOR BLUE SAINTS STARTING LATE JUNE WITH LOCAL
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SPONSORS PICKING UP EXPENSES TRAVEL AND SUPPORT IN
FRANCE.

5. OVER WEEKEND HUGH UPTON, BLUE SAINTS FOUNDER, ADVISOR,
AND PRINCIPAL MENTOR CALLED PAO TO DISCUSS FINANCING
PROBLEMS. PLANNED BENEFIT PERFORMANCE WITH BOB HOPE TO
FINANCE TRANSOCEANIC PORTION TRAVEL HAS HAD TO BE POST-

PONED TO FALL AND GROUP IS \$7,000 TO \$8,000 SHORT OF MINIMUM NEEDED TO ENGAGE CHARTER FLIGHT AND ENTER INTO PERFORMANCE CONTRACTS.

6. PAO TOLD UPTON THAT DESPITE STRONG DESIRABILITY TOUR OF FRANCE SUCH FINANCING BEYOND POST RESOURCES OR ABILITY TO OBTAIN FROM SPONSORS HERE. ALSO EMPHASIZED SHORTAGE SUCH FUNDS GENERALLY, BUT AGREED TO PUT MATTER TO YOU.

7. UPTON SAID BLUE SAINTS COULD UNDERTAKE TOUR STARTING LATE JUNE FOR PERIOD VARYING FROM FOUR TO EIGHT OR NINE WEEKS AND WOULD BE HAPPY MAKE APPEARANCES EASTERN EUROPE, IF DESIRED.

8. RECOGNIZE TIGHT FUNDING SITUATION BUT ON CHANCE SOME PROSPECT OF REPROGRAMMING OR CANCELLATION OTHER PLANNED TOURS, FELT MATTER SHOULD BE PUT TO DEPARTMENT FOR CONSIDERATION. UPTON WOULD NEED DECISION BY EARLY MARCH TO MAKE FLIGHT ARRANGEMENTS AND OBTAIN PERFORMANCE DATES.

9. FROM OUR EXPERIENCE BELIEVE SERVICES THIS GROUP OF 30-ODD PERFORMERS FOR MONTH OR MORE FOR THIS SUM WOULD BE GOOD BARGAIN BUT RECOGNIZE THAT LIMITED FUNDS MUST BE ALLOCATED BASIS WORLDWIDE REQUIREMENTS.
RUSH

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